IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 27, line 23 to page 28, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A description will now be given of a rectangle classifying process corresponding to the step S107 shown in FIG. 2. In the rectangle classifying process, the document-image recognition device classifies the rectangles created at the step S106 to rectangles including a character, a ruled line, a figure/photograph (or others), or a surrounding noise. The most significant rectangles in the ~~preset~~ present invention are rectangles including figures, photographs or others. The document-image recognition device uses a size, a height, a position, a height-width ratio, and the like, for determining features of a rectangle and classifying the rectangle. A description about the rectangle classifying process will be given below with reference to a flowchart shown in FIG. 8.

Please replace the paragraph at page 48, line 22 to page 49, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In the case in which a line that could not be extracted by the color area separation process exist in the result B of the binary area separation process at the step S705, [[A]] a noise is often mixed with the line because of [[a]] an unsatisfactory binarizing process. In such a case, the document-image recognition device detects the noise by calculating the unevenness of the character color on the line at the steps S706 and S707, assuming that a noise color is different from a correct character color.